

# **ADVISORY BOARD ON TEACHER EDUCATION AND LICENSURE (ABTEL)**

## **Minutes**

Meeting Date and Location: September 17, 2001  
Wyndham Hotel, Richmond, Virginia

### **ABTEL Members Present:**

Mychele Brickner	Kimberly Loy
Sharon Condrey	Mary McCauley
Judy Davis-Dorsey	Jane Massey-Wilson
Brenda Duda	Nancy Miller
Jill Fox	Donna Smith
Mark Glaser	J. David Smith
Margaret Shibley Gray	Susan Walton
Holly Hawthorne	

ABTEL Members Absent: Ronald Diss and Ken Fleming

Board of Education Liaison Present: Susan T. Noble

Ex-Officio Members Present: Carole Ballard and Karl Schilling

### **Department of Education Staff:**

Thomas A. Elliott	Byrd G. Latham
Pat Burgess	Winston Odom
JoAnne Y. Carver	Patty Pitts
Paul Joseph	Alice Bryant

Guests: Michael Fluharty  
Amy Garrou  
Betty Lambdin

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### **Full Board Meeting**

Dr. Jane Massey-Wilson presided for Brenda Duda because Ms. Brenda Duda was delayed. Dr. Massey-Wilson called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. with a moment of silence in memory of the victims of the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001.

### **Introduction of Two New Members**

The following two new members of the Advisory Board were introduced:

#### **College/University Representative (Public institution)**

Dr. J. David Smith, Dean  
Longwood University

#### **Secondary Classroom Teacher Representative (Nonpublic)**

Margaret Shibley Gray, Teacher  
St. Gertrude's School

### **Acknowledgement of Guests**

Dr. Massey-Wilson acknowledged guests, Amy Garrou, the Virginia School Boards Association; Michael Fluharty, Teacher Records; and Betty Lambdin, the Virginia Education Association (VEA).

### **Approval of Agenda**

**Dr. Jill Fox made a motion to approve agenda as presented. Judy Davis-Dorsey seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Dr. J. David Smith made a motion to approve the April 23, 2001, minutes, as corrected, and Sharon Condrey seconded the motion. Page two of the minutes should be corrected to reflect that Dr. Louisa C. Moats' visit was recommended by Department of Education staff.**

### **ABTEL Nomination of Officers**

Patty Pitts reviewed procedures for the election of officers. In August 2001, members received a copy of the ABTEL's Operating Procedures.

### **Election of Chair**

**Mary McCauley nominated Susan Walton for chair of the advisory board. Susan Walton respectfully declined the nomination. Dr. Judy Davis-Dorsey nominated Dr. Jane Massey-Wilson for chair. Dr. David Smith made a motion to close the nominations; Mychele Brickner seconded the motion. Since she was nominated for the chair position, Dr. Massey-Wilson removed herself as the presider of the meeting, and Jill Fox assumed the responsibility of chairing the meeting. The motion to close nominations carried. The motion to elect Jane Massey-Wilson as chair of ABTEL passed unanimously. Dr. Massey-Wilson resumed presiding over the meeting.**

### **Election of Vice-Chair**

**Susan Walton nominated Dr. Jill Fox for vice chair. Mary McCauley made a motion to close nominations and Dr. David Smith seconded the motion. The motion to close nominations carried. The motion to elect Dr. Fox vice chair of ABTEL was approved by a unanimous vote.**

### **Election of the Member At Large**

**Dr. Jill Fox nominated Dr. David Smith for the member at large. Dr. Jill Fox made a motion to close the nominations and Mary McCauley seconded. The motion to close nominations carried. The motion to elect Dr. Smith member at large was approved by a unanimous vote.**

### **Approval of Meeting Dates**

The following meeting dates were approved by consensus for 2001-2002:

November 19, 2001	Richmond, Virginia
January 28, 2002	Richmond, Virginia
March 18, 2002	Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia
April 15, 2002	Richmond, Virginia

Meetings will begin at 10:00 a.m. The March meeting at Old Dominion University will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Dr. Elliott reminded members of the importance of notifying personnel in the Division of Teacher Education and Licensure if they are unable to attend a meeting. He also shared Ken Fleming's regrets about not being able to attend the advisory board meeting due to events in his office related to the September 11 attacks.

### **Presentation by Teacher Records**

Dr. Elliott introduced Michael Fluharty of Teacher Records of Maryland. Mr. Fluharty's presentation focused on the company's on-line service for managing teacher licensing, license renewal, and professional development. The service combines a web-based management system with around-the-clock support and training services. Teacher Records offers a Professional Development Module, Certification/Licensure Management, and Reporting and Decision Tools.

## **Recognition of Brenda Duda**

Dr. Massey-Wilson and advisory board members recognized Mrs. Brenda Duda for her outstanding leadership as the chair of ABTEL for the past two years.

## **Agenda Item A: Approval of ABTEL Initiatives for the 2001-02 Academic Year**

Dr. Elliott presented the ABTEL Initiatives for the 2001-02 academic year. ABTEL members discussed the following initiatives at the August 9, 2001, workshop:

- Conduct matching, validation, and standard-setting studies for tests in special education and vocational education;
- Receive updates on the response to House Joint Resolution 794 and consider the development of a reading assessment;
- Complete the Administrative Process Act for regulations;
- Review implementation procedures for the approved program regulations;
- Receive updates on major initiatives, including the Joint Task Force on the K-12 Teaching Profession in Virginia, the Career Switcher Program, Title II of the Higher Education Act. The Board of Education initiatives were outlined as discussed in the August 9 meeting.

During the August 9 workshop, ABTEL discussed the feasibility of considering acceptance of an established score on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) in lieu of Praxis I. After discussion, the item was not included in the initiatives for this year due to the funding needed to conduct such a study.

Dr. Mark Glaser recommended that ABTEL consider requiring Praxis as a requirement prior to receiving provisional licensure. Dr. Elliott suggested that staff provide information on the impact of such a recommendation, including the impact on the issuance of provisional licenses, local eligibility licenses, and special education conditional licenses. Dr. Glaser agreed that after receiving the information at the November meeting, ABTEL members can decide if they want to pursue this item as an initiative for the year. Dr. Jill Fox also requested that the information include the feasibility of issuing a one-year provisional license versus a three-year provisional license to meet the professional assessment requirement. Dr. David Smith asked that the background information include data, such as the number of teachers with provisional licenses.

**Brenda Duda made a motion to approve initiatives for the 2001-02 academic year report as presented. Donna Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**Agenda Item B: A Progress Report on Match, Validation, and Standard-Setting Studies for Vocational and Special Education Praxis II Assessments**

The Educational Testing Service has revised the following Praxis II vocational tests:

Marketing Education  
Business Education  
Technology Education  
Family and Consumer Sciences

The Educational Testing Service has no plans to develop new tests for these areas because the tests have been reviewed and revised. This process of updating test items was supported by a Virginia committee of educators in career and technical education reviewing the assessments. The Virginia committee determined that the tests were appropriate but certain test items were outdated. During the November advisory board meeting, the membership will receive a recommendation from staff to approve the new forms of the vocational education Praxis II tests for a period of two years (September 2001-September 2003), with qualifying scores established by the Board of Education in 1999. After the two-year period, a review will be made to determine whether new matching, validation, and standard-setting studies should be conducted.

The Educational Testing Service is in the process of developing new tests in special education. Mrs. Patty Pitts indicated that the following tests are available:

0353-Education of the Exceptional Students: Core Content Knowledge

0382-Education of the Exceptional Students: Learning Disabilities

0342-Education of the Exceptional Students: Mild to Moderate Disabilities

Additional tests in special education are in development. An update on the status of the new tests will be presented at the November 2001 advisory board meeting.

**Full Board Continues**

Due to a previously scheduled commitment, Dr. Jane Massey-Wilson left the meeting, and Dr. Jill Fox, vice chair, presided.

### **Agenda Item C: Superintendent's Memorandum on Revision in Teacher Education and Licensure**

Patty Pitts distributed copies of Regulatory Superintendent's Memorandum No. 8, dated September 21, 2001, on the implementation of new licensure requirements for instructional personnel. She discussed briefly the contents of the memorandum that addressed the following topics: Technology Standards for Instructional Personnel; Regulations Governing Approved Programs for Virginia; Data Reporting Requirements, Professional Teacher's Assessment, and School Leaders Licensure Assessment.

### **Appointment of Chairs for Teacher Education and Licensure Committees**

Dr. Jane Massey-Wilson appointed Nancy Miller as the chair of the teacher education committee and Susan Walton as chair of the licensure committee. These two individuals will serve on the executive committee for the 2001-02 year.

### **Recognition of ABTEL Members**

During lunch, plaques of appreciation for service on the advisory board were presented to Gertrude Jones, Dr. Winston Odom, and posthumously to the family of Dr. Mary Bicouvaris. Jim Bicouvaris accepted the plaque on behalf of his family. Sally Boese and Wayne Harris were not able to attend, and their plaques will be mailed to them.

### **Agenda Item D: Preliminary Results of Responses to A Survey of Systematic Explicit Phonics Instruction in Virginia's Approved Teacher Preparation Programs**

Dr. JoAnne Carver presented preliminary results of responses to the survey of systematic explicit phonics instruction in Virginia's approved teacher preparation programs in response to House Joint Resolution 794. This resolution requested the Department of Education, in cooperation with the State Council of Higher Education, to study the proficiency of Virginia teachers in teaching systematic explicit phonics and the availability in local school divisions of decodable textbooks and other suitable materials for systematic phonics instruction. As of September 7, 24 of the 37 teacher preparation programs in Virginia responded to the survey.

### **Agenda Item E: A Report on the Definitions of Low-Performing and At-Risk of Becoming Low-Performing Institutions of Higher Education**

Dr. Elliott presented the report on the definitions of low-performing and at-risk of becoming low-performing institutions of higher education. In September 2000, a state plan was submitted for Virginia responding to Title II Higher Education Act.

Virginia established a committee that worked on the definition of low-performing and at-risk of becoming low-performing institutions of higher education. The Board of Education will receive the proposed Definitions of Low Performing and At-Risk of Becoming Low-Performing Institutions of Higher Education for final review during its September 26, 2001 meeting. The definitions will be included in the state report to the U. S. Department of Education on October 7, 2001.

#### **Agenda Item F: Report on the Status of Regulations**

Dr. Elliott presented a report on the status of regulations in the Administrative Process Act process. A Board of Education public hearing on amending the career switcher program to all careers will be held on Wednesday, September 26, at 2:15 p.m. In addition to the hearing, comments on the regulations may be submitted in writing to Winston Odom. The career switcher regulations are posted on the Department of Education's Web site, [www.pen.k12.va.us](http://www.pen.k12.va.us). We anticipate that the regulations will be presented to the Board of Education for approval at its November meeting.

Dr. Elliott announced that a public hearing will be held at the October Board of Education meeting to receive comments on amendments to the licensure regulations. These regulations reflect changes in the Code of Virginia as well as establish a fourth option for obtaining a division superintendent license. It is anticipated that these regulations will be presented to the Board of Education for approval at its January 2002 meeting.

The notice of intent to revise the Regulations Governing the Employment of Professional Personnel is anticipated to be presented to the Board of Education at its November meeting.

#### **Agenda Item H: Liaison Reports**

Virginia Community College System (VCCS)

Carole Ballard shared that VCCS has a new chancellor, Dr. Glenn DuBois. He has agreed to continue to work with the VCCS task force for teacher preparation. Their first meeting will be held Thursday, October 18, and this should outline tasks for the year. They have been making progress on the statewide online system that will have a link to each of the 37 institutions. The system also will allow individuals considering a teaching career to go on-line and view information on becoming a teacher.

This is the first year VCCS will have data on pass rates on Praxis I for the 23 community colleges. They recently received their first Praxis I report and their one student passed. The community college system will provide assistance for Praxis I for students who express an interest in pursuing a teaching career State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)

## State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Dr. Karl Schilling, State Council of Higher Education (SCHEV), had to leave the meeting due to a prior commitment; therefore, a report from SCHEV was not presented.

## Virginia Department of Education (DOE)

Thomas Elliott reminded advisory board members that the Division of Teacher Education and Licensure would be extending invitations to attend the Teacher of the Year Celebration and Banquet on October 26 at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

Dr. Jo Lynne DeMary and her executive staff will make on-site notifications for the eight Regional Teachers of the Year on October 3. The teachers will be interviewed the morning of October 26, and the Virginia Teacher of the Year will be announced at the banquet that evening.

Dr. Elliott reported that Virginia has been fortunate in that four educators have been selected to be recognized by the Milken Family Foundation. On behalf of the Milken Family Foundation, the Department of Education will present a total of \$100,000 (\$25,000 each) to four outstanding secondary classroom teachers grades 6-12. The notifications are scheduled for October 9 and 10. Next year the Milken Family Foundation will recognize elementary teachers.

## **Informational Items**

- Susan Noble thanked the advisory board members for their work and reported that the Board of Education approved all of the recommendations made by ABTEL last year.
- Brenda Duda shared a special thank you to the Department of Education staff for their support.
- There are currently two vacant ABTEL positions on the 19-member Board—the citizen-at-large representative and an elementary classroom teacher. It is anticipated that these positions will be appointed during the September Board of Education meeting.
- Governor Gilmore appointed Diane Atkinson to assume the unexpired term of Jennifer Byler on the Board of Education.
- Byrd Latham distributed copies of I Teach Because I Can to ABTEL members. The tape will be used for recruitment of teachers and young people to the profession.



- Winston Odom shared that the Department of Education is waiting to hear from the federal grant to help address teacher shortages. We should receive a response before the end of the month.

### **Adjournment**

The Advisory Board Meeting on Teacher Education and Licensure adjourned at 2:25 p.m.